

sugarcane production would cease. Thus, this acreage could be purchased and used to store water and reconnect Lake Okeechobee with the Everglades, which would be a major step in restoring the Everglades. We need to take other steps now, however, to protect the Everglades from further pollution and deterioration until we can end the Federal Sugar Program.

Thus, I have introduced a bill which assesses, for the next 5 years or until the Federal price support program for sugar growers is terminated, 2 cents per pound on raw cane sugar grown in the EAA. These funds will be deposited into an account known as the Everglades Agricultural Area Account, which will be used to make grants to the South Florida Water Management District so that it, in conjunction with the State of Florida, may acquire property in the Everglades to restore these national treasures. A 2-cent-per-pound assessment on raw sugar produced in the EAA would raise \$350 million over 5 years, which would help purchase land, halt the pollution of the Everglades, and assist in restoring water quality.

After thoroughly researching this pollution crisis in the Florida Everglades, the Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District have created a plan to save and restore the Everglades. Under this plan, 131,000 acres of land within the southern EAA must be purchased at a cost of \$355 million. The money raised by the 2-cent assessment will fund this plan and help save the Everglades.

Sugar growers in the Everglades area have been forced to take steps to improve water quality by implementing best management practices with respect to phosphorous discharge and agreeing to pay approximately \$25 an acre over the next 20 years, that will be used to help restore the water quality. The concessions made by the sugar growers under the Everglades Forever Act, however, cap the sugar growers' contribution and do not require them to make full reparation until 2010. That is simply too little too late to save the Everglades.

Sugar growers in the EAA have benefited from Federal and State subsidized water projects that drain water from the Everglades to make this land suitable for sugar production. These water projects have severely injured the Everglades, and therefore it is only right that sugar growers be responsible for the cleanup of the Everglades and pay their fair share for the purchase of these lands.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to act now to protect these national treasures by supporting my bill to restore the Everglades to the pristine condition so that it can be enjoyed for generations to come. My bill is fair to the sugar growers who have reaped tremendous benefits from the sugar program at the cost of two of our most beloved but most neglected national treasures: the Everglades and the Florida Bay. It is time for the sugar growers to work with the rest of the Nation to preserve these treasures.

## MANDATORY FEDERAL PRISON DRUG TREATMENT ACT OF 1995

**HON. FRED HEINEMAN**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 16, 1995*

Mr. HEINEMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Mandatory Federal Prison Drug Treatment Act of 1995. This legislation will restore equity in the way the Federal Bureau of Prisons [BOP] administers its drug treatment program so that drug addicts will stop being rewarded for being addicts.

Instead of rewarding prison drug addicts at the expense of other inmates, the Mandatory Federal Prison Drug Treatment Act provides a proper incentive to recovering addicts to get treatment.

The 1994 crime bill changed the way that the BOP administers its substance abuse treatment programs to allow drug abusers to get out of prison a year earlier than their clean counterparts. For example, two Federal prisoners who are convicted of the same non-violent offense can receive substantially different sentences.

This inequity is not based on past criminal history. Rather, the prisoners' unequal sentences are the result of one inmate's drug addiction. Unfortunately, the BOP can reward a drug addict by taking a year off his sentence after completion of a drug treatment program. My 38 years in law enforcement tells me that this is simply wrong.

The Mandatory Federal Prison Drug Treatment Act ties successful completion of the drug treatment program to good time. The Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 abolished parole in Federal prisons. Thus, inmates serve the entirety of their sentences, reduced only by credit for satisfactory behavior—good time. This bill simply requires that drug addicts complete the drug treatment program before they can receive any good time credits which they have accrued.

At present there are 99,000 prisoners in custody and control of the BOP. There are over 26,000 prisoners who need treatment.

## CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2020, TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT AP- PROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICK LAZIO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 1995*

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2020, the FY 1996 Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the conferees on this bill for their efforts, particularly the chairman of the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. LIGHTFOOT].

The conference agreement contains \$189 million in funding to complete construction of a vitally important project in my district on Long Island, the Central Islip Federal Courthouse. I was pleased the conferees quickly reached agreement on full funding for completion of the

courthouse and deeply appreciate the willingness of Chairman LIGHTFOOT and the other conferees in working with me to meet this essential need.

First announced by the General Services Administration [GSA] in 1991, the Central Islip Courthouse was designed to solve the problems of the only space emergency in our Nation declared by the U.S. Judicial Conference. That space emergency for the eastern district of New York, was first declared in 1989 and renewed in 1992. These declarations are unique in that these are the only times the Judicial Conference has ever taken such an action. The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts has just designated the Central Islip Federal Courthouse as its No. 1 construction priority.

Without the completion of the Central Islip Federal Courthouse, eastern Long Island's 2.5 million people will continue to have to tolerate what has been described as a security nightmare. Federal judges in New York's eastern judicial district are facing the heaviest case load in the district's history while enduring dangerous, inefficient, costly temporary facilities scattered in five rented locations.

Unlike some other Federal courthouse projects, the cost per square foot of the Central Islip Courthouse is below the GSA average for similar projects. The courthouse will be cost effective, saving taxpayers \$4 million a year now paid for rent.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and to continue to support the timely completion of the Central Islip Federal Courthouse.

## IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN TUR- NER, CHAIR, AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LIFE INSURERS

**HON. JIM RAMSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 16, 1995*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the efforts of an outstanding Minnesotan, John Turner, chief executive of Reliastar Financial and the new chair of the American Council of Life Insurers [ACLI].

In his role as chair of the ACLI, John Turner will continue to work to improve the image of the life insurance industry by encouraging the Nation's life insurers to adopt a code of ethical market conduct.

By imposing strict standards on itself, in addition to those State insurance regulators used to police the industry, life insurers will take strides in improving their standing with the public and their customers.

While scandals have damaged the reputation of some life insurance companies and agents in recent years, with John Turner at the helm, Reliastar's image has remained unblemished. In addition, Turner helped the company through some tough financial times in the early 1990's, and its financial position is solid.

I wish John Turner the best as he works with life insurers across the country in the coming months, urging them to embrace higher standards and increased accountability.

If his track record is any indication, John Turner's latest endeavor is sure to be a resounding success.